



Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment

SCOPE

June News 2012

As part of their Summer "Night" series, the Santa Clarita Library invites you to join them to view the recent award winning documentary film entitled, "The City Dark. In search of darkness on a planet that never sleeps!" Thursday June 14th

Have you noticed that in many places in the City the stars are no longer visible? This phenomenon is a result of "light pollution" that not only affects our enjoyment of the night sky, but interrupts the needs of birds and other nocturnal animals.

"THE CITY DARK" chronicles the disappearance of darkness. When filmmaker Ian Cheney moves to New York City and discovers skies almost completely devoid of stars, a simple question — what do we lose, when we lost the night? — spawns a journey to America's brightest and darkest corners. Astronomers, cancer researchers, ecologists and philosophers provide glimpses of what is lost in the glare of city lights; blending a humorous, searching tone with poetic footage of the night sky, what unravels is an introduction to the science of the dark, and an exploration of the human relationship to the stars.

Last year SCOPE members supported the County's "Rural Lighting Ordinance" to help address this issue. We routinely ask that street lights be hooded and pointed downward. Find out what you can do around your home to make a difference.

Start Time: 6:30 PM End Time: 8:45 PM

Location: Valencia Library Meeting Room



City to hold High Speed Rail Workshop

6 PM Sulpher Springs School Multi-purpose room

16628 Lost Canyon Road, Canyon Country CA 91387

In 2008, voters passed a \$9.86 billion dollar bond to begin building this project. Does the project still make sense in the current economic climate? How will the rail route and noise affect Santa Clarita and your neighborhood? The California Highspeed Rail authority will make a presentation to the Council of their updated Business Plan and the project with an emphasis on Santa Clarita.

[Brown seeks to reduce environmental protections for bullet train](#), June 4th, 2012

By Ralph Vartabedian, Los Angeles Times *With legal challenges mounting, governor circulates legislation designed to diminish the possibility foes could stop the project with an environmental suit.*

[Voters have turned against California bullet train, poll shows.](#) June 2nd, 2012

By Ralph Vartabedian, Los Angeles Times *A strong majority of voters is against the bullet train project just as Gov. Brown is pressuring the Legislature to green-light the start of construction, a USC Dornsife/Los Angeles Times poll finds.*

Regional Water Board ask questions, expresses concerns over Newhall Ranch's River Permit

No vote occurred at Thursday's hearing for the required Water Quality Certification of Newhall's Permit to alter the Santa Clara River. Instead, Board members asked about the long-term sustainability of building in the flood plain, how Newhall would meet the Chloride standard required of the rest of the Valley and whether this proposal really represented the most up to date watershed planning. Members familiar with the Los Angeles River asked why so many tributaries would be buried in storm drains while other areas were trying to uncover their streams. The eight Board members voted



unanimously to continue the hearing in order to obtain answers to these questions.

SCOPE participated in a group presentation to the Board with the Friends of the Santa Clara River, The Center for Biological Diversity and the Ventura Sierra Club. For more information on the Santa Clara River, Los Angeles County's last free-flowing river, and our very own local natural treasure, see [Wildlands of the Santa Clara River](#).

Other News - County Holds only hearing on Disney-Placerita Canyon Sound Stage proposal Draft Environmental Document before public has had a chance to review this it. While the purpose of this week's June 4th hearing was to allow the to provide comments on this document, it was apparent that no one had read it yet. Some concerns were expressed about traffic and its affects on this rural canyon. Others asked for an extension of the review period. Is this really an improved EIR process? See [The PR Prowess of the Mouse](#) for our thoughts on this project so far.

How about a day at the beach this Sunday with the family?

breanna.chandler@ccc.ca.gov

Chumash Village Restoration Project

Sunday, June 10
9:00 am - 1:00pm

Chumash Village Malibu

What to bring:
Water bottle; sun protection; long pants; and sturdy, close-toe shoes.

A photograph of a Chumash village. It shows several traditional dwellings with conical roofs made of brush and mud. In the foreground, there is a large, circular earthen structure, possibly a storage pit or a well. The background features rolling hills and mountains under a clear sky.

Family Friendly

Who to contact:
Breanna Chandler
breanna.chandler@ccc.ca.gov
503-791-7447

Where to park:
33904 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu.
The Chumash Village is adjacent to
Nicholas Canyon County Beach Park.
Free parking is available along the PCH.
Paid parking in Nicholas Canyon County
Beach Parking lot for \$8.



Do you want to show your appreciation for southern California's coastal beauty? Your local Watershed Stewards Project members are hosting a restoration project and are in need of spirited volunteers!

Not only will volunteers have the grand opportunity to plant native species, get rid of invasive ones, and enhance anadromous fish habitat but they will also be able to experience first-hand the rich cultural history of the Chumash people.



The mission of the AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards Project is to conserve, restore and enhance anadromous watersheds for future generations by linking education with high-quality scientific practices. A special project of the California Conservation Corps, WSP is administered by California Volunteers and sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

SCOPE in the News -

["SoCal Sacks the Sack-Where is our City?"](#)

["Bees: A Part of our Life & Culture"](#)

["It's Easy Being Green"](#)

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Mom says, "You should help the environment"

"Long time SCOPE member Evelyn Carpenter helped us to help you save the Santa Clara River with her donation to SCOPE.

You can too!"

Don't forget! - You can get in depth information on our current activities and additional articles by visiting our new [blog](#) site.



Contributions are tax deductible and may be sent to:

[SCOPE](#)

(Click above for form)
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